

**MINUTES  
REGULAR MEETING  
UTILITY SERVICE BOARD  
AUGUST 15, 2005**

The Regular Meeting of the Utility Service Board of the City of Jasper, Indiana, was held in the Council Chambers of City Hall in Jasper at 7:00 PM on Monday, August 15, 2005.

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Greg A. Krodel who presided.

**UPON CALL OF THE ROLL, THE FOLLOWING WERE PRESENT:**

Greg A. Krodel – Chairman  
Mike Harder – Vice Chairman  
Ken Sendelweck – Secretary  
Michael A. Schwenk – Electric Commissioner  
Jeffrey S. Theising – Water Commissioner  
Edward J. Kreilein – Wastewater Commissioner  
Alex Emmons – Gas Commissioner

**ALSO PRESENT:**

Jerry Schitter – Electric Distribution Manager  
Windell Toby – Electric Generation Manager  
Thomas A. Lents – Wastewater Manager  
Michael A. Oeding – Gas & Water Manager  
Kenneth R. Schultz – Business Manager  
Sandy Hemmerlein – City Attorney

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE** (B-19)

Chairman Greg Krodel led the Pledge of Allegiance.

**QUOTE OPENING: BACKHOE – WASTEWATER** (B-28)

Tom Lents presented a quote from Hopf Equipment for \$7,775.00 for the annual backhoe replacement program.

Ed Kreilein made a motion to accept the quote of \$7,775.00 from Hopf Equipment for the annual backhoe replacement program. Mike Harder seconded the motion. Motion approved, 7-0.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES** (B-62)

Chairman Greg Krodel presented the minutes of the July 18, 2005 meeting and there being no corrections or amendments, asked for a motion to approve. Alex Emmons made a motion to approve the minutes of the July meeting as presented. Mike Schwenk seconded the motion. Motion approved, 7-0.

## **REQUEST FOR OUT OF CITY UTILITY CONNECTION – N. OF 47<sup>TH</sup> ST. (B-80)**

Ken Brosmer, representing Kerstiens Corp., came before the Board to request the extension of City water and sewer to 40 acres north of 47<sup>th</sup> St., which is outside the City limits. Brosmer said the subdivision would consist of 96 lots and would be known as Windsong Estates.

Mike Oeding said the water extension would be no problem and there is a possibility of extending the gas line to this property also.

Tom Lents said he is unsure of the collection system capacity in this area and wants to do a capacity study before he would approve this extension. Lents said he has contacted Commonwealth Engineers and they could do the study in about 2 weeks.

After some discussion, it was decided to table this issue until a study could be performed.

Alex Emmons made a motion to table the utility connection request until next month. Ed Kreilein seconded the motion. Motion approved, 7-0.

## **REQUEST FOR SEWER EXTENSION (B-486)**

Ken Brosmer, representing Kevin Jacob, came before the Board to request an extension of the City sewer line to 13 acres near State Road 164, just south of Whoderville Road. The subdivision would consist of 10 lots and would be known as Maui Ridge Subdivision.

Brosmer explained the property had to be engineered to verify capacity as part of the Whoderville sewer project. Brosmer presented a letter from Commonwealth verifying the capacity and outlining the requirements of the property owners to be part of the sewer project.

Mike Harder made a motion to extend City sewer to 10 lots in the Maui Ridge Subdivision, subject to signing the annexation waiver. Ken Sendelweck seconded the motion. Motion approved, 7-0.

## **UPDATE – GENERATOR FIELD REWIND (B-545)**

Windell Toby reported the generator field rewind is moving along. Toby said when he was in Columbus on August 5<sup>th</sup>, there was only one coil to install, with another fifteen days of testing, insulating, and balancing. Toby said they are hoping to have it back at the end of August, with plant start-up scheduled for the first of October.

## **UPDATE – POWER PLANT MAINTENANCE (B-551)**

Windell Toby reported the plant maintenance is progressing.

He explained while lubricating some equipment they discovered the steam boiler feed pump rotor was froze. Toby said evidently something came loose internally and it won't rotate. It will be shipped off for repairs, but Toby won't know the cost until it is torn apart.

Toby also reported that two Power Plant employees were loaned out to the Park & Recreation Dept. for a week to help them get caught up prior to their seasonal employees leaving.

### **ELECTRIC PLANNING COMMITTEE REPORT** (B-570)

Mike Schwenk, Chairman of the Electric Planning Committee, stated the committee had not met during the past month.

### **NEWTON ST. WATER TOWER UPDATE & CHANGE ORDER #2** (B-571)

Mike Oeding reported that as of this week the tower work is complete, but there are still a few items to be done such as replacing posts that were removed to allow for semi-trucks during the project, and seeding and strawing.

Oeding presented Change Order #2 for a reduction of \$595.00 for the removal of seeding and strawing from the contract. He explained it is just not the right time of the year to sow grass and he obtained an estimate of \$595.00 from Turf Pro to do the seeding and strawing at the appropriate time.

Ken Sendelweck made a motion to approve Change Order #2 to reduce the original contract by \$595.00, and to have Turf Pro do the seeding and strawing later this fall. Mike Schwenk seconded the motion. Motion approved, 7-0.

Ken Schultz suggested excluding seeding and restoration work from future contracts to avoid situations like this.

### **UPDATE – MERIDIAN RD. GAS PROJECT** (B-627)

Mike Oeding reported the gas lines have been run across the dam and he anticipates getting the majority of the lines hooked together by the end of this week or the first of next week.

The station will be installed as soon as the crops are out of the fields.

### **SLUDGE REMOVAL** (B-648)

Mike Oeding reported they would be doing sludge removal again this fall. Mike Hochgesang has agreed to take the sludge again.

### **S.R. 56 PROJECT – APPROVAL TO SIGN AFFIDAVIT FOR EASEMENTS THAT COULD NOT BE LOCATED** (B-652)

Mike Oeding explained when the City installed gas lines in the 1950's, gas was extended to the property owned by the Bishop and the Diocese at Precious Blood, but easements were never obtained by the City to be on that property.

Oeding presented an affidavit asking for authority to sign verifying that the property owner has never disputed the legality of the gas line location.

The affidavit would be returned to the State, which would allow the City to be reimbursed for moving the gas lines on the State Road 56 project.

Ed Kreilein made a motion for approval and to give authorization to Mike Oeding to sign the affidavit as presented. Jeff Theising seconded the motion. Motion approved, 7-0.

**GAS PLANNING COMMITTEE REPORT** (B-681)

Alex Emmons, Chairman of the Gas Planning Committee, stated the committee had not met during the past month.

**WATER PLANNING COMMITTEE REPORT** (B-682)

Jeff Theising, Chairman of the Water Planning Committee, stated the committee had not met during the past month.

**APPROVAL TO HIRE COMMONWEALTH TO PERFORM A CAPACITY STUDY**(B-685)

Tom Lents asked for Board approval to hire Commonwealth to perform a capacity study on part of the northwest portion of the sewer collection system.

He presented a proposal from Commonwealth for a cost not to exceed \$7,400.00.

Lents explained the study would look at the 8" line that comes from 47<sup>th</sup> St. down to the Portersville lift station, including the Portersville lift station, the force main that runs to the area north of 36<sup>th</sup> St., and the 10" line that runs to the Northwood lift station, including the Northwood lift station. Commonwealth will look at the flow in these areas and what the pumps are capable of doing, and if there is a problem, they will offer some suggested "fixes".

Lent said Commonwealth could complete the study in 2 weeks.

Discussion followed concerning who should pay for engineering studies. It was decided that the City would pay for it in this situation.

Ed Kreilein made a motion to allow Tom Lents to hire Commonwealth to perform the capacity study at a cost not to exceed \$7,400.00. Mike Schwenk seconded the motion. Motion approved, 7-0.

**WASTEWATER PLANNING COMMITTEE REPORT** (A-4)

Ed Kreilein stated that last month the committee presented a resolution setting forth the standards and specifications for the sewer line and lift station construction for the Board's review and he asked if anyone had any questions.

Kreilein said the committee recommended approval of the resolution.

Ed Kreilein made a motion to approve Resolution #USB 2005-04 as presented. Ken Sendelweck seconded the motion. Motion approved, 7-0.

Sandy Hemmerlein stated part of the resolution is a recommendation to the City Council concerning turning the system over to the City.

## **2006 SALARY & WAGE RESOLUTION** (A-62)

Ken Schultz presented a resolution recommending salaries and wages for utility employees for 2006.

The proposed salary and wage adjustments are as follows:

1. An increase of 3% plus \$520 per year for all full-time hourly and salaried positions.
2. An increase of 25 cents an hour for all permanent part-time positions.
3. No increase for temporary or seasonal part-time positions.
4. Plus other organizational and salary wage adjustments within the City.

Mike Harder made a motion to approve the 2006 Salary & Wage Resolution #USB 2005-05 as presented. Mike Schwenk seconded the motion. Motion approved, 7-0.

Sandy Hemmerlein presented Resolution #USB 2005-06 amending the 2005 Salary & Wage Ordinance to add the position of General Manager of Utilities, which would allow for hiring someone for that position in 2005.

Ken Sendelweck made a motion to approve Resolution #USB 2005-06, recommending to the City Council to amend the 2005 Salary & Wage Ordinance to include the General Manager of Utilities position. Alex Emmons seconded the motion. Motion approved, 7-0.

## **DISPOSAL OF SURPLUS CAPITAL ASSETS & INVENTORY ITEMS** (A-141)

Ken Schultz reminded the Board that our capital asset policy requires us to take a physical inventory of our capital assets on an annual basis. The physical inventory was taken in July to identify the assets, and it allows us an opportunity to prepare a list of those assets that are no longer needed.

Schultz presented listings of assets for disposal from each department.

Mike Schwenk made a motion to approve the asset disposal lists as presented. Ed Kreilein seconded the motion. Motion approved, 7-0.

## **FINANCE COMMITTEE REPORT & PRESENTATION OF CLAIM DOCKET** (A-250)

Ken Sendelweck reported the Finance Committee had met and reviewed the claims on the Claim Docket.

Also presented was a claim on behalf of Harrison & Moberly, LLP in the amount of \$7,843.75, representing legal services relating to the Titan litigation issue for the Wastewater Project. SRF and BIF funds have been exhausted, therefore after Utility Service Board approval, the above referenced claim will be paid from Wastewater funds.

Also presented was Pay Request #4 from Diversified Coatings, LTD in the amount of \$24,610.05 for the Newton Street Water Tank Project. After this payment, which is their final Pay Request,

retainage being held amounts to \$24,851.70, which must be paid within 61 days from the date of substantial completion.

The Finance Committee recommended approval of the claims as presented.

Mike Schwenk made a motion to approve the claims as presented. Jeff Theising seconded the motion. Motion approved, 7-0.

**AMENDMENT TO SEWER LICENSE WITH NORFOLK SOUTHERN RAILWAY (A-278)**

Sandy Hemmerlein reported the Utility Service Board received a letter from DMJM Harris, dated July 15, 2005, on behalf of Norfolk Southern Railway Company, with regards to a license agreement that the City of Jasper entered into with Southern Railway in March 1989.

Tom Lents explained that at that time the City replaced the sewer line on their property, which presently runs under the Riverwalk by the Veneer Mills, along the river.

Hemmerlein said Norfolk Southern Railway has proposed that instead of paying \$120 annually, they would eliminate all future billings for a lump sum payment of \$2,000. Hemmerlein explained the license allows the City the privilege of having the sewer line on their property.

Hemmerlein said she asked them if they would consider entering into an easement and they replied it would take approximately 2 years to complete and the cost would be high.

Councilman Brad Seger stated that it was his understanding that the entire railroad property from Huntingburg to French Lick was gifted to the Indiana Railway Museum, who leases it to Dubois County Railroad, approximately 6 to 10 years ago. Hemmerlein said she would do some research to verify this information and asked to have this issue tabled until she can do so.

Ken Sendelweck made a motion to table this issue until Sandy Hemmerlein can verify the information provided by Councilman Brad Seger. Mike Schwenk seconded the motion. Motion approved, 7-0.

There being no further business to come before the Board, the meeting was adjourned at 8:29 PM upon motion by Ed Kreilein and second by Jeff Theising. Motion approved, 7-0.

Attest: \_\_\_\_\_  
Secretary

\_\_\_\_\_  
Chairman